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CENTRAL FAX CENTER Patent Application Number: 10/691,174
DEC. 11 2007 Attorney Docket Number: A3078Q-US-NP

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method to reduce the a total inter-document zone (IDZ) region in a multi-pitch intermediate multi-pass system, comprising:

a) shifting individual inter-document zones, in a multi-pitch intermediate multi-pass system, in accordance with asymmetric timing of start and stop times of processes occurring within the individual inter-document zone ~~that must occur during this time~~;

b) shifting individual images, in a multi-pitch intermediate multi-pass system, forward to a position outside of their a normally synchronized position of the image, ~~in multi-pitch intermediate multi-pass systems where more severe constraints for IDZ exist are for the beginning vs end of transfer, e.g., where the transfer start requires a larger time than transfer stop~~;

c) using varying an arrangement of similarly asymmetric inter-document-IDZ zones and varying their arrangement to process each successive document; and

d) determining the a minimum inter-document zone in accordance with an inter-document zone requirement associated with a IDZ necessary given the need for larger IDZ for transfer start or other specific IDZ process and a requirement the need to provide synchronous images on successive passes within each document.

2. (Currently Amended) TheA method as in claim 1, further comprising placing where the placement of short inter-document zones IDZ's in sequence at locations occurring after each transfer.

3. (Currently Amended) TheA method as in claim 1 wherein a next image processes forward ~~but not in~~ non-synchronicity with the previous image.

4. (New) The method as in claim 1 wherein individual images, in a multi-pitch intermediate multi-pass system, are shifted forward to a position outside of a normally synchronized position of the image when a transfer start requires a larger time than transfer stop.

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5. (New) The method as in claim 1 wherein individual images, in a multi-pitch intermediate multi-pass system, are shifted forward to a position outside of a normally synchronized position of the image when more severe constraints for an inter-document zone exists for a beginning of a transfer versus an end of a transfer.